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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH : Deputy Director (Support) *KS/* 10 OCT 1962

SUBJECT : CINCARIB Communications

1. This memorandum contains information concerning CIA participation in communications meetings directed by [redacted] at the 20 September 1962 meeting.

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2. An initial meeting was held 28 September 1962 to determine whether the CIA communications network in Latin America could handle priority communications requirements of CINCARIB. At this meeting the CIA Office of Communications representative briefed the Department of Defense and State Department representatives on the CIA network, its capabilities and limitations. After a general exchange of views by representatives of all the agencies, it was agreed that technical representatives from State, Defense, and CIA should meet to discuss the matter in greater detail.

3. The second meeting was held 3 October 1962. The following conclusions were reached:

a. The CIA communications network clearly could not fulfill the requirement of CINCARIB's Communications Plan 1-62.

(CIA Comment: These requirements were stated as a minimum of two full-time teletype and one full-time telephone circuit from each country.)

b. The CIA network could probably carry the increased workload (priority traffic) in normal civil disturbances and politically unstable conditions. It could not cope with situations which would demand operational responses (counterinsurgency operations) by the Defense Department.

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c. The validity of CINCARIB's Communications requirements was not within the province of this interdepartmental committee.

(CIA Comment: This is the heart of the problem, but the DOD representative from J-6, was adamant that this committee was not the proper place to discuss the military requirements for communications in Latin America.)

d. The amendment to the Communications Act of 1934 to permit reciprocal diplomatic communications agreements to be made may have an effect on the U. S. Government policy in the future. It may be determined that expanded communications facilities in Latin American countries would have more tenability in or near U. S. embassies than on local military bases as proposed by CINCARIB.

e. The Bureau of the Budget and other appropriate U. S. agencies have the whole question of U. S. overseas communications under study. Advice and guidance from them should be sought.

(CIA Comment: It was pointed out to the committee how, as a result of the BOB's recommendation, [redacted])

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[redacted] The DOD representatives found this point interesting, but reiterated that an expanded system for [redacted] in Latin America would probably not meet DOD's minimum stated requirements.)

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4. Although the meetings were inconclusive insofar as solving CINCARIB's stated requirements are concerned, I believe they were worthwhile in that they opened up an exchange of ideas concerning communications for the U. S. in Latin America. It would appear that if U. S. communications in that area are going to be expanded, such expansion should be by one agency, with other agencies reaping parallel benefits. The DOD representatives were told during the meetings that if their radio network were established per the CINCARIB plan, [redacted]

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/s/ [redacted]
Director of Communications

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cc: ExDir

CA Staff([redacted])

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